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LAW LIBRARY JOURNAL

Volume 31

MAY, 1938

Number 3

THE LIBRARY OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

OSCAR D. CLARKE

Librarian, Supreme Court of the United States

The Library of the Supreme Court, as now constituted, dates from the Court's occupation of its new building in 1935. Prior to that time library service for members of the bar was provided by the Law Library of Congress, through the part in the Capitol, popularly known as the Supreme Court Library. The Court, because of lack of space, had for its exclusive use only the small library which its Conference Room could accommodate. These two adjacent libraries, with their small areas, were conducive to quick service on such volumes as were included in them. On busy days, however, it would always seem that many were called but few were present. The lacking books could be procured only from the Library of Congress, across the Plaza, which of course occasioned much delay.

In our new quarters ample space has been assigned for the library, and enough of it equipped to meet its needs for many years to come. The plan of separate libraries for the Court and the bar has been adhered to, although in the matter of administration and operation they are a unit.

Both are primarily working libraries. The one for the bar is considerably the larger. That for the Court, though smaller, has more of interest for one engaged in research work and for the antiquarian. The two function without any additional expense being chargeable to their location in different parts of the building. All volumes, regardless of where shelved, are available for members of the Court, the bar and others entitled under the rule to use the library. The total number of volumes in the two collections approaches 85,000.

The Justices' reading room with its adjoining stack, is fitted with shelving for about 65,000 volumes. It is located on the second floor. Free of ornamental color, carving or marble, this room impresses one with its simplicity and restfulness. Panels of oak rise to the ceiling from bookcases of the same wood. Walnut tables and leather upholstered chairs harmonize with the floor covering of the same tone and add to the air of comfort.

Justices using this room find within easy reach the United States Reports, Federal Reporter and United States Statutes and Code. A library assistant is on duty here during usual office hours to supply books for which there may be calls, whether from Justices in the reading room or in their offices, or from readers in the Bar Library.

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This library is made up in large part by the collection of the late Elbridge T. Gerry, and was bequeathed by him to his son, now a Senator from Rhode Island. Senator Gerry presented to the Court this gift of about 23,000 volumes. In addition to State and Federal court reports and statutes, it includes a very good selection of English material, less complete sets of Scottish and Irish reports and the added classes which made a particular appeal to its collector.

Although distinguished in the law, Elbridge T. Gerry was perhaps best known as an humanitarian and, as one would expect, his law collection, while embracing the many tools of the practicing lawyer and revealing the taste of the antiquarian and the connoisseur, also reflects his special interest in society and its problems.

Among these works, which include the writings of French, as well as those of English and American authors, are many volumes on such related subjects as criminology, medical jurisprudence and insanity. Mr. Gerry was also a prominent churchman. The influence of that connection, too, is shown by the inclusion of many rare and interesting old volumes, in addition to modern works, on church law and history.

Apart from these works which reveal his predilection, Mr. Gerry's law library included many old and rare books of more general interest to the bench and bar. Practical considerations, in fact, seem to have dictated the acquisition of most of his books. They might be rare, they might be of interest to the antiquarian; but at the same time they would make a strong appeal to the student of the law or to the active practitioner. In this connection it is of interest to note that in opinions delivered last term, our Court cited many of these old works which had aided in its construction of the law involved. Later in this article, I shall have more to say about some of them, but at this point it seems better to make a brief survey of the facilities which our library offers the lawyer.

The third floor of the building is devoted entirely to the main or Bar Library, and includes two reading rooms of distinction. The smaller of these, reserved for future use, is suggestive of a room in some old English castle. Round arches are its dominant motive. Arched doorways give entrance from the narrow corridors or alcoves at each end of the room. Square windows set in arched recesses and fumed oak, pilastered and panelled walls form an unbroken line with the arched ceiling. This ceiling is finished in soft colors and decorated in gold with objects typifying knowledge, more particularly as it concerns the law and government. This room is unquestionably one of the most artistic in the building.

There is something awe-inspiring about the grouped spaces which make up the main library. Its very plan gives one the feeling he is entering an old cathedral. Voices seem involuntarily hushed, as a few steps from the entrance bring one to a view of the entire plan and permit an appreciation of its imposing stateliness. Modified to meet a secular need, one sees the nave with aisle on either side, separated by round arches. A transept is formed by three adjacent spaces. The central one joins the nave through an arched opening and connects in turn with an alcove beyond suggestive of the choir, thus completing the plan and emphasizing its obvious inspiration.

In contrast to the Court Room, marble finds no place in the library suite.

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Instead, oak is everywhere in evidence; panelled, pilastered, exquisitely carved by hand in designs which include many life-sized figures, it forms the dominant feature of the reading room. The ornamental plaster ceiling is decorated in subdued color and gold, making an artistic whole. Around the walls, in both the reading room and the fover, are wood carvings, executed in bas-relief, of the heads of twelve ancient jurists and lawgivers beginning with Draco and Solon.

Without attempting to define the term, the books, which, with respect to location at least, are intended especially for the bar, are best described as a good practical library. The collection probably includes most of the material common to bar association, university and other law libraries; a little less in some classes, a little more in others.

With the great collection of the Law Library of Congress just across the street, it has not seemed wise to attempt to duplicate, to any extent, the mass of rare and foreign books which go to make it pre-eminent among law libraries. We do not lose sight of the fact that our service is limited to the Court and to practicing lawyers. Experience has demonstrated that ninety-five per cent of their calls find satisfactory response in our own library. It must be confessed, however, that within our own self-imposed limitations deficiencies are often apparent. For example, we are sadly lacking in state treatises and in early session laws. For these there is a special need, as most of our readers, including those connected with the Government, are from the States.

To set off this disadvantage, attorneys specializing in federal tax law practice may have access to a forty-five volume set of tax laws, regulations and legislative history which is probably without duplicate. This unique and valuable collection was compiled by the Honorable Carlton Fox, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, and presented to the Court for its library. Only one who has found it necessary to prepare a brief in, or to argue, one of those intricate, involved and difficult income tax cases, can fully appreciate how indebted we are to the compiler and donor of this set.

In placing the books in the Bar Library an effort has been made to shelve in the large reading room, where they will be easily accessible to readers, those sets which are most often needed. Following the United States material, State statutes, reports and digests are collected and shelved alphabetically by States. Other large units, including the Reporter System, treatises, periodicals, and the American Digest System attractively and conveniently installed in Redy-Ref Racks, have been assigned to the larger alcove spaces at each end of the room. It has been found that shelf space in this area, within which readers are encouraged to wait upon themselves, is at a premium already and so, even at the risk of departure from an established and wholly logical arrangement, considerations of convenience and quick service have required the filling of all available shelving with classes of material which are, more or less, in constant demand, but which would otherwise be relegated to the adjoining stack, to which readers are not admitted.

Viewed from any angle, the most valuable, the one irreplaceable part of our library is the set of printed records and briefs, covering the terms from 1832 through 1936. This collection, made by the present Clerk and his predecessors in that office,

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dates from the time when the transcripts of records in cases in the Supreme Court were first printed and is believed to be the only complete set in existence. These volumes are shelved neither in the Justices' Library, nor in that for the bar, but have their own special stack adjoining the librarian's office. From here, needed volumes are sent each day to many points within the building in response to requests from members of the Court and bar.

Upon undertaking to write something about our library, it became quickly obvious that it would be impossible to comment on all of its interesting items. It seemed best, therefore, to limit particular mention to English books alone; and of these only a few could be chosen. They will not, of course, tell a connected story, but as we browse along together, each may find something of interest to him; just as each will pass over those with a too familiar binder's title, or replace on the shelf others, shown by a glance at idly turned pages to be without promise.

Apart from any other value which they may have, books printed three or four hundred years ago are interesting in themselves, not only for their primitive characteristics, but also because they come to us from a world just beginning to emerge from the intellectual darkness of the Middle Ages. England, less than two decades before the probable date of our oldest book, had seen Caxton bring her first printing press from Bruges and set it up in a house in the yard of Westminster Abbey. Calais was still held by England as a gateway to the French Provinces, which she claimed. Belatedly the English Nation was beginning to feel the impulse of the awakening which had been evidenced on the Continent for some time.

Shortly after we had become located in our new quarters, a gentleman distinguished in law and statecraft, on a tour through our building, was shown the librarian's offices. In passing he glanced at a locked bookcase and queried, "Is that where you keep your incunabula?" Had the gentleman been a librarian there might have followed an awkward pause for readjustment to a different standard of veracity. Under the conditions, however, my answer, in strictest conformity to truth was, "Um, yes."

Our library has, in fact, but one volume published before 1500, and that one is so ringed about with question marks that I shiver every time my path of duty carries me past it. Printed without title page or colophon the book itself carries no information as to place or time of publication, and so my ever present fear is that some day a bibliophilic archeologist will dig up the fact that the traditionally ascribed Statham (?) abridgement of Year Book cases, printed by Le Talleur (?) for Richard Pynson (?) at Rouen (?) in 1495 (?) was in fact printed by and for someone else and somewhere else, not less than five years and six months later.

Some of my colleagues, who spend their days locked in a rare book cage, flitting from cell to cell and rattling the chains on imprisoned books, will read this confession in pity and sadness, if charitable, and wonderingly leave me to the enjoyment of the few books which face me from the case across the room.

Avoiding any thought of legal principles or the theories which they may expound, let us look at a few of these old volumes with an eye to their lighter side, disregarding their place in the growth of the law and viewing them rather as human documents, reflecting small segments of the life and culture of their time,

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as revealed by their authors and printers. It should, perhaps, be mentioned here that, although in quoting from these early writers the old spelling has been followed, no attempt has been made to conform to the archaic letter forms which may have been used. This means the rejection of "u" for the sound of "v," "i" for "i," the "y" form of "th" and other such peculiarities.

Our earliest treatise on English law bears this inscription on its title-page:

Imprynted

at London in Fletestrete at the signe of the George nexte to Saynte Dunstones Churche by Wylly am Powell. In the vere of our Lorde God

MCCCCCLII. The. XXIIII. daye of

Februarye.

Neither title nor author is disclosed on this page. On the next, however, where the text begins. The office of Shyryffes appears inconspicuously as the subject of the work; but as to the author-nothing.

A casual look through this 16mo, volume of about two hundred unnumbered pages, shows five different spellings of the word "sheriff"-and this is not one of them. The office of sheriff in those far off days was one of no little honor and its importance continues even to our times, the Lord Mayor of London being selected from among Aldermen who have held the office of Sheriff of the city.

The same idiosyncracy, or inexplicable variation in spelling is shown when we turn to the books from the press of Richard Tottell. Although pre-eminently known today as a printer of Year Books, Tottell did not confine his voluminous work to these. He was well known as a printer before Elizabeth succeeded to the throne of England. A few years after her accession Master Tottell was given, by her, the exclusive privilege of printing law books. Such privileges as this were granted also to other printers for different classes of output and were, it seems, precursors of copyright protection.

Tottell's shop was "at London in Fletestrete within Temple barre, at the signe of the hand & Starre," and it was there that some famous English law books were printed. Among these now in our library are: Brooke's Abridgement (1576), Fitzherbert's Abridgement (1577), and Staundforde's Les Plees del Coron (1583). We also have by the same printer: Phayer's Booke of Presidents (1569), Staunforde's Exposicion of the kinges Prerogative (1567), De Legibus Angliae municipalibus Liber . . . (1583), and Novae Narrationes (1561).

Mr. Soule, in his excellent article, Year-Book Bibliography,1 points out that Tottell constantly and intentionally varied the spelling of his name. "Richard" appears in his editions of the Year Books with four spellings and the surname with no fewer than nine.

The same variance is disclosed in our few books bearing his imprint. If it is "Tottell" on the title page it may be "Tottel," "Tottil," or "Tottyl" in the colophon. The first name shows the same disregard for any rule of conformity. We find five different spellings of it in our volumes. Most of the books noted above are printed in Latin, French, or a mixture of the two languages. When Latin is used

the unpredictable printer always adds the customary suffix "i" to his first name, but seldom to his last.

Even a casual examination of the text of these books will convince the reader that, though printing was destined to bring about a uniformity in the written and printed word, as well as to play an important part in the transition and crystallization into modern English of the several languages and dialects then written and spoken in England, nevertheless, Tottell's part in that development and reform would seem to have been negligible.

Another small volume of Tottell's, which I omitted to mention, bears the date, 1555. The title page is embellished with an elaborate and involved woodcut, with just enough white space to carry the title: The Abridgement of the Boke of Assises, lately pused over & corrected, & nowe newlye imprynted by Rycharde Tottle, ye laste daye of September. An. Do. 1555. The ornamental woodcut, or "device," had evidently belonged to Richard Grafton for it includes his monogram. Grafton had been the royal printer from the accession of Edward VI, but upon that King's death had made the mistake of printing Lady Jane Grey's Proclamation. Queen Mary had promptly deprived him of his office, just two years before the printing of the "Boke" which we have before us. Tottell, connected by marriage with Grafton, came into possession of much of his equipment, for the latter was from then on to devote all his time to compiling his Chronicle, which we will look into later.

John Selden, a name famous in the law, is identified as owner or author with two of our valued volumes. One of these, a small book, bears two pencilled notes on the flyleaf. The first, by Mr. Gerry, reads: "This book cost here imported \$41.60 August 1865." Below this, another, signed "R. W. Haynes," shows that the volume was purchased by him among a lot of works which originally belonged to Selden. This testimony as to its former distinguished ownership is really quite unnecessary because the little volume's original binding of brown leather is stamped in gold on both covers with Selden's crest, which includes the motto, "Prudens non Loquax" and the initials, "I S."

The work itself, written in the somewhat corrupt law French of the period and printed in the then popular, but trying, black letter, is "per Richard Bellewe, de Lincolns Inne, 1585." The title reads, Les Ans Du Roy Richard le Second, Collect' Ensembl' hors de les Abridgements de Statham, Fitzherbert et Brooke, and the printing was done by "Robert Robinson, dwelling in Fewter lane neere Holborne."

The way of the transgressor is supposed to be hard, but in reading the prefaces and messages to the reader in many of these old volumes, it is apparent that the way of innocent authors was not easy in those earlier days. They lived and wrote in a contentious age, when criticism was violent and unrestrained. While expecting and fearing what they considered unjust and ignorant comment, the authors were equally abusive in showing their resentment. It is difficult for us to understand how so much bad feeling could be engendered by anything so prosaic as a law book. But then, I recall how choleric the late John F. Dillon often became if crossed in the presentation of a case before our Court. As Chief Justice Fuller once remarked, "Dillon argues on a mortgage as though death were knocking at the door."

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Here is what Richard Bellewe has to say to his readers concerning his experience with critics. He addresses his preface,

"To the students of the common Lawes of this Realme, and especially to the grave and learned Societie of Benchers, Utterbarresters and Students of Lincolnes Inne.

"The experience is common, and the examples infinite, that teach us howe daungerous it is, by setting our accions on the publike stage to submitte the valuation of our selves to the censure of a multitude: Since there bee no more diversitie of bodies than varietie of oppinions: Nor of them so many governed with any sparke of reason, as misguided with affectionate, malitious or carping disposition: who being scarce able to cobble an old clouted shoe, will yet take upon them to amende Appelles fine workman-ship: thinking it not sufficient with the idle droane Bee to suck the sweet of an others sweat, But (contrary to all humanity) in stede of thankes, (the smallest gwerdon that can be) to deprive their painfull benefactors of deserved praise.

Then he tells us that, having decided that "Learning hath no enemie but ignorance," and being persuaded by his friends, he would rather risk criticism than deprive some deserving person of the help which his work might afford.

Having given free rein to Richard Bellewe in excerpts from a lengthy preface, let us return to John Selden, whom we are to meet this time as author of four tracts bound in a single volume and published under date of 1682.

Before beginning his story he, also, has a word to say to his critics.

"If so be that anyone shall shew himself more busic or pragmatical in these writings of mine, than becomes him: Not knowing (as we say) a Pig from a Dog I would not have him ignorant, that I value it no more than rush, to be lashed with the flouts of prattle-boxes or tittle-tattlers . . . Nor does any one that is in his wits, when an Ass kicks and flings at him to little or no purpose, regard an idle oafish affront so as to requite it . . . Well! let Asses and silly Animals commend, find fault, tune their pipes, how they will: let the envious and ill natured with their sneerings, prate and talk . . . it's all fiddle faddle to me, nor would I put a straw between."

The writings of Tho. Ashe, Grayens, include a little volume with delightfully human prefaces and the title: Fasciculus Florum or a handfull of Flowers gathered out of the severall Bookes of the Right Honorable Sir Edward Coke, Knight and one of the Kings Majesties most Honorable Councellours of Estate. The author not only follows this flowery title with the couplet:

"The Country Cokea, doth yeeld thee these Flowers:

Thy senses to feede, and refresh at all howers"

but indulges in Latin verse as well.

Ashe is also long on prefaces; so long, in truth, that if they followed the comparatively few unnumbered pages of text, it might seem an instance of the tail wagging the dog. In the first of three he is determined that the reader shall not be denied his bouquet, and so makes the formal presentation in these words:

"I here present unto thee these Flowers, bound up in Fasciculos Florum, which thou shalt finde to be not of the nature and kinde of our English Garden Flowers, which grow, increase, and flourish at the Spring of the yeare, but fade and fall away in Autume or before, but these are of that quality and kinde, that they continue the same per totum annum . . .

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A second foreword is addressed "Againe to the Reader," but this time the flowers give way to a bitter complaint about the Printers.

"Know (gentle Reader) that the vitiating and false printing of this Booke, through the negligence and oversight of the Printer and his Corrector, hath brought to me double paines, and travaile, the wel-willing Author. Wherefore having now revised the same, I have not onely corrected the faultes therein committed, but also increased it with sentences drawn from the Epistles of the Books, in the former edition omitted, and withall translated the whole worke into our vulgar tongue: So that the same being now perfect (for the Latine) need not blush, or be ashamed to appeare before the best learned Scholler in the University . . . yet sith this ill doing of the Printer and his Corrector hath brought a double benefit and good unto thee, the Reader: I pray thee on his behalfe, to beare with his fault, and make the same the lesser."

Tho. Ashe thus gave voice to feelings which found frequent and heartfelt expression among 17th century authors. These lamentations were only too well grounded, but the printer certainly had his side, too, for his art had received scant encouragement in England. Its possibilities for use in the furtherance of seditious undertakings had been early recognized and feared by the Government. The Star Chamber, of bad repute, had restricted by order, in 1586, the number of presses and had confined them to London and the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. These restraints were increased rather than relaxed with the passing of the years, until, following the Restoration, an Act of Parliament made it unlawful for more than twenty printers to carry on their work in England.

Printers were looked upon as dangerous persons. Queen Elizabeth not only retained the control inaugurated by Queen Mary but also required every printer to give bond for his good behavior. When we remember that these government regulations were additions to the material drawbacks of crude, wooden presses, scarcity of good type and suitable paper, and, above all, of trained artisans, decadence at this time was not only to be expected, it was inevitable.

But to return to "A Handful of Flowers," and the third preface to this three by five book. Having gotten himself pretty well warmed up with the thoughts of the printer, Master Thomas Ashe now joins the chorus in condemnation of the critics and addresses himself. "To the Captious and malicious Detractors." Let me quote the opening paragraph, because I am sure that it will strike a responsive chord in the experience of most of us:

"Whether it commeth to passe for want of wit, or proceeds from froward Fortune, I cannot tell: but this I know by wofull experience, through the whole course of my life, that my hap hath beene alwaies hard, in most things that I have taken in hand, or at any time enterprised . . . Otherwise how could it be that in this my poore Epistle my simple and plaine meaning should be so mistaken?"

Another amusing, but not unusual, example of the length to which prefatory matter was carried during the 17th century is afforded by The Attourneys Academy: or The manner forme of proceeding practically, upon any Suite, Plaint or Action whatsoever... especially in the Great Courts at Westminster, to whose motion all other courts of law or equitie... are diurnally moved, written by Tho: Powell and published in London, 1623. Following the title page, comes first "The Epistle Dedicatorie," addressed to two honorable knights and "Lords chiefe Justices of the two severall Benches." We read three pages of this; glance at a sentence in Latin and

continue with the dedication. This time, however, we find addressed, "The Right Reverend in God, Right Honourable in his King, Right serviceable in his Country, and Right able in himself; John, Lord Bishop of Lincolne, and Lord Keeper of the Great Seale of England." The Bishop, whose family name I find was Williams, is then treated to a poem, a page and a half long, in which the author, in payment of the vouchsafed protection, promises:

"Then will I sing thy Fortune and thy Fame, And prove, that Williams from the Trojans came: Shewe, where his Auncestors long since did build A seate, which hitherto their Name hath fill'd. Now may that Name and Honour ne're expire, But in a melting Firmament of Fire."

Having concluded his offer of a bargain, the author, while resting for a longer flight of fancy, now offers a shorter dedication to Lord Bacon in these words:

"To True Nobilitie and tryde learning, beholden to no Mountaine for Eminence, nor supportment for his height, Francis, Lord Verulam and Viscount St. Albanes"

and finishes off with a six line verse.

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Turning the page once more and passing over rhyming lines of commendation, we finally reach the "Epistle to the Reader." Four closely printed pages of this and a last fling at poetry bring our author's dedications to a reluctant close with the words:

"To the rest, I rest
As jealous of your loves,
As zealous of your liking,

Tho. Powell."

Early law writers, it would seem, were often impelled to give way to verse in introducing their work. Perhaps, since the Preface would be written last, they were but expressing the joy of a difficult task well done. Chappuis concludes his Institutiones Imperiales (we have the rubric edition of 1510) with the fervent words, "Finis. Deo gratias," but our English authors were less restrained. Abraham Fraunce, in a small volume printed in 1588 under the title, The Lawiers Logike, exemplifying the praceepts of Logike by the practise of the common Lawe, expressed himself in these lines:

"If Lawes by reason framed were, and grounded on the same, If Logike also reason bee, and thereofo had this name; I see no reason, why that Law and Logike should not be The nearest and the dearest frendes, and therefore best agree. As for the fonde conceyt of such as never knew them both, Better believe some mens bare worde, than their suspected oth. I say no more then what I saw, I saw that which I sought, I sought for Logike in our Lawe and found it as I thought. If all that I have sought and found your Honor doe content,

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(Let scribes and pety penmen talke,) I thinck my time well spent, And labour herein well imployed: Acceptance is my meede, I crave no more, I have no lesse, if you vouchsafe to reade."

Almost without exception these early English law treatises were printed in London and originally belonged to libraries or attorneys of that city. When we consider the vicissitudes of the times it is truly remarkable that any of them have been preserved. One such calamity which befell the city was the great fire of 1666. We are reminded of this in the statement made by William Sheppard in his "Epistle Dedicatory" to *The Practical Counsellor in the Law*, London, 1671. He says, "My Lords, This Volume, although at present it appears New to you, yet is a Second Impression: the First not quite finished in the Press, totally lost in the late dreadfull Conflagration of the City of London."

May I here once more digress and in a few words try to convey some impression of the English capital of that time. London proper was a walled city, as it had been since the Roman occupation. Viewed as such it was large, yet its greatest length within walls was little more than a mile. The wall itself, starting at the Tower and running north, east, and then generally south to return to the river, was little more than two miles in length.

London had long since outgrown its walls and was now a congested, dirty city of probably three hundred thousand persons. Never entirely free from the plague, it had, only the year before the fire, in 1665, lost some seventy or eighty thousand of its population by the "Great Epidemic." Those within the walls had suffered but little, since it was in the suburbs, where the poor, the riff-raff and the scum were crowded together in filthy tenements, that the terrible scourge took most of its victims.

Elizabeth had tried in the preceding century, by forbidding building within three miles of the walls, to prevent the further growth of the city, and, although her action was grounded in the fear of its growing power, the increasing congestion was recognized as augmenting the danger from pestilence.

The people of London were an independent lot, however, intent on furthering their growing trade and riches. Jealous of their freedom, resenting any interference with business, they wished to be left alone to govern themselves. These qualities of self reliance and courage, which had defied the trials of the passing decades, were now to be put to their most severe test. The plague had not been entirely stamped out, when the "Great Fire" began in a baker's shop near London Bridge. The city was largely of frame buildings; a strong wind was blowing; the blaze raged for four days; thirteen thousand buildings were wiped out; and four-fifths of a great city was destroyed amid scenes of unimaginable confusion and terror! A "dreadful conflagration" indeed, as William Sheppard has told us. His printer was one of eight who were ruined by the fire, their shops probably having been among the last consumed.

The Inns of Court, which had long been carrying on as law schools, were all threatened, but, save the Inner Temple where most of the buildings perished, all seem to have escaped injury, thanks to their substantial construction and spacious grounds.

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Nothing daunted, the Londoners had plans for a new city before them in a few days, and, within as many years, sturdy brick and stone structures had replaced most of the earlier wooden ones. A better planned capital had arisen from the ashes of the old; one which would never again be visited by the plague in epidemic severity. The holocaust, which had wiped out the filthy breeding places of disease, was also to bring about a new city in which such great fires would no longer be possible. Thus the fear of two terrible scourges was forever destroyed by the disaster.

In these days of unrest and radical change, when long existing standards of conduct are under suspicion and attack; when governments fall and individuals rise; when liberty is threatened by a hastened millenium; when human nature is outlawed by a ruler's decree, let us dust off a very few of the views on governmental problems which were expressed and found wide acceptance in past centuries. Since the courts have been singled out as a particular object of attack in our current war on conservatism, suppose we start with them. Let us read what George Saltern had to say about judges in 1605, when he wrote his little book, Of the Antient Lawes of Great Britaine:

"... into the seate therefore of judgement, which is as the Throne of the Divine Majestie, let no man unwise or unlearned, presume to ascend, least hee turne light into darkenesse, and darkenesse into light, and least with an ignorant hand like a mad man, he strike the innocent & spare the offender, and least he fall from above as from the Tribunall of God, by attempting to flye without winges to support him. And when any man is to judge, or to be made a judge, let him take heed, lest by judging perversly and against the Lawes, for request or reward, or a little temporall comoditie, He purchase to himselfe sorrow and griefe eternall . . ."

Turning back a few pages we find: ". . . when Lawes are made, no Man may judge of them but according to them."

The next quotation from the same volume reminds me of the remark made by a lady visitor to our new building, who, upon being shown the reading room for the bar, said, "It is magnificent, but why so many books? The law should all be in a single volume."

"... Law and right is to bee given to all men equally. Neither shall we need of any other, whatsoever judiciall booke, onely let this bee infixed in the minde of him that sitteth as judge upon others, that he give no other sentence of other men, then he wold have to be given in his owne cause."

And to conclude—this one unrelated but interesting sentence:

"Therefore I say *Lucius* did institute the trial of al matters in fact, to be by twelve witnesses, as our Saviour Christ ordayned, & chose twelve to beare witnesse of his resurrection; neither doe I finde any other law president or example from whence this manner of Trialls should be taken."

Other writers of those stirring times were thinking along similar lines, and since many of the questions which they discussed are still of vital interest to us, a few further quotations may be timely and forgiven. We are of course constantly reminded from many sources that few of our present problems are new, but some of the passages which follow seem particularly apposite and apropos, even though here strung along rather disconnectedly.

"Our Ancestors have been famous in their Generations for Wisdom, Piety, and courage, in forming and preserving a Body of Laws to secure themselves and their Posterities from Slavery and Oppression, and to maintain their Native Freedoms; to be subject only to the Laws made by their own Consent in their General Assemblies . . . This body of Laws our Ancestors always esteemed the best Inheritance they could leave to their Posterities, well knowing that these were the sacred Fence of their Lives, Liberties, and Estates, and an unquestionable Title whereby they might call what they had their own, or say they were their own men."

This seems to pertain very closely to one of the most vital subjects of discussion today. It is an excerpt from John Somers' The Security of English-Men's Lives, or the trust, power, and duty of the Grand Jurys of England, London, 1681.

Under the Tudors there had been a steady development of the English navy. It was, however, during the reign of the House of Stuart that a truly national sea force was organized and provided for. The Lord Chancellor's speech on October 27, 1673, is recorded in "Memorabilia: or the most Remarkable Passages and Councels collected out of the several Declarations and Speeches that have been made by the King, his Lord Chancellors and Keepers and the Speakers of the Honorable House of Commons in Parliament since His Majesty's Happy Restoration, Anno, 1660, till the End of the last Parliament, 1680. By Edward Cooke, of the Inner Temple, Esquire." He said,

"When you consider we are an Island, it is not Riches nor Greatness we contend for; yet those must attend the Success: but it is our very Beings are in Question. We fight pro aris and focis in this War. We are no longer Free-men, being Islanders, and Neighbours, if they master us at Sea: there is not so Lawful or Commendable a Jealousie in the World, as an English-Man's, of the growing Greatness of any Prince or State at Sea. If you permit the Sea, our British Wife, to be ravished, an Eternal Mark of Infamy will stick upon us.

"The King declares (and shall we not believe him?) that he is very far from being in Love with War for War's sake: And as that cannot be well made without a Supply, so neither can Peace be had without being in a posture for War: Therefore the way to a good Peace is to set out a good Fleet; and if after, a good Peace should follow, saith he, yet the Supply would be well given."

Doesn't that sound like a very modern argument for a large navy?

The following, too, fits into the present. The Chancellor tells Parliament that the King says,

"... I will never more suffer the course and method of passing Laws to be changed; and that if several matter shall ever again be tacked together in one Bill, that Bill shall certainly be lost, let the importance of it be never so great."

The Chancellor then continues,

"The late way of tacking together several independent and incoherent matters in one Bill, seems to alter the whole frame and constitution of Parliaments, and consequently of the Government it self . . . It looks like a kind of defamation of the Government, and seems to suppose the King and House of Lords to be so ill affected to the publick, that a good Bill cannot carry it self through by the strength of its own Reason and Justice, unless it be helped forward by being tacked to another Bill that will be favored."

Five years later, in 1678, we find the Chancellor speaking:

"There is so strange a concurrence of ill accidents at this time, that 'tis not to be wondered at, if some very honest and good men begin to have troubled and thoughtful hearts. Yet that which is infinitely to be lamented, is, that malicious men, too, begin to work upon this occasion, and are in no small hopes to raise a storm, that nothing shall be able to allay."

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As I look back on the many typewritten sheets to which this article has grown, there dawns the realization that it was ill advised to allow any suggestion that there was prolixity in the writings of bygone times to intrude itself. I should cry "enough"—as you, "gentle reader," may have long since done—but there is on my desk just one other volume from which I would quote before closing with a brief mention of a few of our "association" books.

Probably the best printing job shown in any of our old books was done on Grafton's *Chronicle*, one of the non-legal books in the Gerry Collection. The colophon shows that it was "Imprinted at London by Henry Denham, dwelling in Paternoster Rowe, at the costes and charges of Richard Tottle and Humphrey Toye. Anno, 1569, the last of March," and further that it was "Seene and allowed according to the order appointed. Cum privilegio ad imprimendum solum."

Grafton's punning device, also, appears in large size on this same page. This consists of a tun with a grafted fruit tree growing through it (Graft-tun). Tottle's connection with the printing of this volume is explained by the fact that he had married the daughter of the author, but why the work was not done in his shop does not appear, unless his sole right to print law books excluded him from other classes of printing.

The title page of this handsome work is illustrated with portraits which, chronologically arranged, begin with Moses and come down to Elizabeth. The content of the volume is described as "A Chronicle at large and meere History of the affayres of Englande and Kinges of the same, deduced from the Creation of the worlde, unto the first habitation of thys Islande: and so by contynuance unto the first yere of the reigne of our most deere and sovereigne Lady Queene Elizabeth."

The author explains his beginning with the creation, in writing what he reiterates is a mere history of the affairs of England, by saying:

"I thought best to admonish thee, that forasmuch as this Island of Briteyn (whereof the greater part is now called England) had the same time of creation that al the rest of the earth had: therefore I begin this booke at the creation of the World, and so continue the same . . And by the waye, when Brute, as by the testimonie of most authors, first entered this Island and named it Briteyne: there beginneth mine History of this Realme."

The degree of credibility which is to be attached to some of the stories told and statements made in the early part of this "history" will of course depend upon the "gentle reader," but I look for no undue excitement among my scientific friends if they ever read this one, selected more or less at random from the many wonderful happenings recounted. The assigned date is 460 B. C.

"And as at this time, men lived much longer than we do now: so is it true that they had far greater bodyes & were of much more strength than we are now. S. Augustine writeth (as Lanquet sayth) that he himself sawe in Utica (a citie in Africa) the jawe tooth of a man of such exceeding greatnesse that it might well have made an hundreth of oure teeth, and there he alleageth the sentence of Plinie, who sayth, that the longer that time passeth, the lessor bodyes shall be engendred. And I the writer and collector of this whole Booke, and Hystorie, did see the tenth daye of March. 1564, the checke tooth of a man, and had the same in my hande, which was as great as a Hennes egge, and the same did wey ten ounces of Troy weight. And the skull of the same man, as I am credibly informed, is extant and to be seene which will hold five pecks of wheate, and the shinne bone of the same man is also to be seene, which is reported to be six foote in length, and of a marveylous greatnesse."

So much for prefaces, epistles and quotations, which undeniably going to(0) great lengths, seem to have gotten us to nowhere in particular, unless it be true, as John Selden renders in couplet a line from a more ancient writer, that

"We praise old times, but make use of our own; And yet 'tis fit they both alike be known."

Possibly a few words as to our association books will be of greater interest and will at least have the merit of brevity. It seems almost impossible for me to avoid the old volumes, for the first book worthy of comment is Bracton's De Legibus et Consuetudinibus Angliae . . . (1569.) A note by Mr. Gerry states that William Aycough, whose autograph appears on the title page, was a tutor of Mary Tudor.

Others deserving of mention are:

Cranch: United States Reports, each of the eight volumes autographed "J. Marshall."

Burge: Commentaries, 4 vols., London, 1838.

A set presented to Chancellor Kent by the author. The letter accompanying the gift and a copy of the acknowledgment in Kent's writing, is pasted in the front of the first volume.

Holt: Law of Shipping, 2 vols., London, 1820.

Lawes: Charter Parties, London, 1813.

The flyleaf of each of the above three volumes carries the autograph of "D, Webster."

Blackstone: The Great Charter and Charter of the Forest, Oxford, 1759.

Notes on the flyleaf of this handsomely printed volume, by the donee and his son—Christopher Robinson, the Admiralty Reporter—show that it was presented to the father, Christopher Robinson, D. D., of Magdalen College, in 1759, by the compiler and author of the introductory discourse, William Blackstone.

Roccus: Manual of Maritime Law, tr. from the Latin by Joseph Ingersöll, Phila., 1809.

Autographed by Thomas Pinckney.

Bentham: Rationale of Judicial Evidence, London, 1827.

"To Andrew Jackson, President of the United States from Jeremy Bentham."

Parkes: History of the Court of Chancery, London, 1828.

"The Right Honorable Lord Lyndhurst with the Author's Complits."

THE LIBRARIES OF THE INNS OF COURT, LONDON*

HELEN S. MOYLAN

Law Librarian, State University of Iowa

In the heart of London stand the four Inns of Court, where, since the four-teenth century, lawyers have been trained in the common law of England. The Societies of the Inns were similar in many ways to the medieval guilds and had a highly developed community life. They were not merely institutions for lawyers, as they are now, but educational institutions in a wider sense, where the youthful sons of the nobility were sent to be prepared for their later duties about the royal court, and in the government of the state. The Inns are governed by Benchers, who are a limited number of the senior King's Counsel and members of the Society forming a self-perpetuating body.

In the very early days the teaching was mainly oral, for manuscripts were scarce and expensive. Students attended the Readings and the moots in the Inn of their choice and sat in the courts of Westminster, listening to the trial of cases. That they had some reports of cases we know from the Year Books which have come down to us and from the manuscript copies which still exist of Bracton's De Legibus et Consuetudinibus Angliae and the Abridgements like those of Fitzherbert and Britton. However, not very many of these have survived in the libraries of the Inns, for the vicissitudes of fire and riots and reveling have destroyed many of the early records and possessions of the Inns. History records, for example, that in 1381 the followers of Wat Tyler broke into the Temple and seized all books and papers and all reports of cases in the lockers of the apprentices of the law and burned them in the highroad.

No definite date can be set for the actual foundation of any of the libraries because they undoubtedly grew up gradually from small collections, and it was only when someone made a considerable gift or bequest to them that they acquired the dignity of being assigned special chambers. Mr. Inderwick, in speaking of the Inner Temple, says that long before the time of Henry VII that Society had a library, "a possession which places the old house, for educational purposes in advance both of the Middle Temple and of Lincoln's Inn." In the surviving records of the Inns the first mention of a library is in the Black Books of Lincoln's Inn, where, as early as 1475 it is recorded that thirty shillings should be paid to Roger Towneshend for the library. An anonymous writer of the time of Henry VIII, quoted by Dugdale, says of the Middle Temple:

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^{*}Grateful acknowledgment is made to Mr. H. A. C. Sturgess, Librarian of the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple, Keeper of the Records, for his kindness in reading the manuscript and making suggestions for some additions which have been incorporated in it. The article was submitted to Mr. Sturgess through the kind offices of Miss Mildred D. Miles, of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-law, and Librarian of the School of Law of the University of Buffalo.

"They now have no library, so that they cannot attaine to the knowledge of divers learnings, but to their great chardges, by the buying of such books, as they lust to study. They had a simple Library, in which were not many bookes besides the Law; and that Library, by meanes that it stood allways open and that the learners had not each of them a Key unto it, it was at the last robbed and spoiled of all the bookes in it."

It is generally believed that the Middle Temple library was in existence from the time of Henry VIII onward, although the real development came after the bequests of Robert Ashley in 1641, and he is usually referred to as the founder. His portrait, painted by Thomas Leigh about the middle of the seventeenth century, still hangs in the Library.

The earliest reference to a library in Gray's Inn occurs in a will dated 1555 in which certain law books were bequeathed to the library and forty shillings were given to provide chains for fastening them. Sir Francis Bacon is often spoken of as the founder of this library because of his many benefactions to it.

At this period, that is during the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, law books were not very numerous and it took but a few shelves to house them. In 1641 a chamber was ordered to be built for the library of Gray's Inn, but nothing seems to have come of this and it was not until many years later that a special library room was built in this Inn. However, the library developed into a more important feature as time went on and it became necessary to appoint a keeper for the books. In 1646 in Gray's Inn the chapel clerk was appointed library keeper, and in 1669, there is recorded an order that a catalogue be made and that the library keeper be held responsible in future for any books "embezzaled or lost." There were then about one hundred volumes in the library. The library keeper was, as a rule, a student of the Society, the chapel clerk, or the chief butler, who, at this period was more like a clerk of the council than the modern use of the term implies. It was usual to require of the library keeper that he give security upon taking office and an inventory was made of the books when his term of office ended.

In spite of the fact that the books were chained they nevertheless seem to have disappeared, chains and all, from time to time. There are frequent references to committees appointed to "peruse the catalogue of books and see if all be there."

In 1657, in the Middle Temple Records we find:

"Locks shall be set on the presses for the small books in the library, and all the books registered in one book to be kept with the evidences of this House, to which books coming in are to be added. Another book of parchment leaves shall be provided handsomely bound to register the names and gifts of benefactors . . . all law books which are or shall come forth, shall be bought and placed there."

And again in 1693 one of the library committee is

". . . to procure some Latin bookseller to new model and catalogue the books, to supply what law books are wanting, and to get new chains for such books as he shall direct."

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Lincoln's Inn Library is first mentioned in the Records of that Inn of July 13, 15 Edw. IV, 1475, where it is stated, in the Treasurer's Accounts for that year: "Balance in Treasurer's hands £28:10:7, which he paid to Robert Rede, the new Treasurer; out of which he paid, by the command of the Governors, 30s. to Roger Towneshend for the Library." In 1505 John Nethersole left forty marks to the Society of Lincoln's Inn for erecting a library "to the increase of learning and the study of the law of England within the Inn," and there are many references to the library throughout this century in the Records of the Society. The following entry appears in 1602:

"The Reports of the Committees concerning the reformings of the Lybrarye to his right use, and storinge the same with bookes. We are of opinion that the Librarie be ordered and made as spatious as the roome will afforde, and that there be but one passage into yt. . . . That frames be sett for bookes upon the north side of the Lybrarie against the wall, and on the north parte of the endes thereof. . . . That decent stooles be provided, and that moveable deskes be also made, and chaines for the bookes. That two of the Bench and two of the Barre be appointed to take charge of furnishinge the librarie and providinge the bookes. That they doe their best meanes to provide bookes of voluntary gift or contribution towardes the Lybrarie. . . . Item, when yt is seene what bookes will come in of guifte, then to consider what bookes shalbe further supplyed in the same."

Apparently, however, the good effects of the reform of the library in 1602 where not lasting for in 1629 the barristers and students petitioned for more convenient seats and presses in the library and offered to contribute books towards the furnishing of it. As a result of this it was ordered in 1630 "that a common Library shalbe made for ye use of this society." The new library chamber apparently was completed in 1631 and the Chaplain was appointed library keeper. In 1652 the Benchers ordered that the library be viewed every term by a Bencher and two Barristers, and the condition reported, and that "all considerable books be chayned."

The libraries were supported in different ways, sometimes by fees from newly appointed Benchers, or from the students and barristers levied directly for the library, and sometimes from the society funds apportioned by the council. Gifts of money or books were quite frequent. In the latter part of the seventeenth century, after the Restoration, it became the fashion to donate books to the libraries of the Inns and many of the books given at this time and bearing the autographs of noted judges of the day like Chief Justice Bankes and Lord Keeper Finch, who were members of Gray's Inn, are still preserved in the respective libraries of the Inns.

One of the most important gifts to Lincoln's Inn was the bequest in 1676 of Sir Matthew Hale, who left a large collection of manuscripts, including some of the legal manuscripts of John Selden whose executor he had been. Herbert has the following to say about these manuscripts:

"There is in the custody of the society of Lincoln's Inn . . . a considerable number of manuscripts, containing matters of a parliamentary, judicial, legal and public nature. Among them are, strictly speaking, scarcely any originals, but many of the transcripts and abstracts in the collection have, in some respects, acquired the value of originals, and are, in the estimation of those who have had occasion to examine them of great authenticity and importance."

In his will Hale wrote that:

"They are a treasure . . . which I have been near forty years in gathering with every industry and expense. . . . They were fit to be bound in archives. They are treasure not fit for everyman's view, nor is every man capable of making use of them. Only I would have nothing of these books printed, but entirely preserved together for the use of the industrious members of that worthy society."

The collection includes among other valuable books two manuscripts on vellum of Bracton's De Legibus which differ from the printed editions of 1569 and 1640, a copy of Fleta, Horne's Mirrour of Justices, and Year Books of Edward I. The manuscripts in the Lincoln's Inn library were catalogued by the Reverend Joseph Hunter in 1837.

Another noted collection given to Lincoln's Inn in 1843 was that made by Charles Purton Cooper, consisting of nearly 2,000 volumes relating to the civil law and law of foreign nations. At the present time the library consists of more than 72,000 volumes.

The Inner Temple has a famous collection of manuscripts which were bequeathed to it in 1707 by William Petyt. He was for a great many years Keeper of the Records in the Tower of London and the manuscripts contain many copies from the Tower Records. He was particularly interested in religious matters and the collection, as a result, is very rich in materials for ecclesiastical history. Among its other manuscripts the Society possesses, according to the report of the Historical Manuscripts Commission in 1888, a fourteenth century copy on vellum of the Natura Brevium, Magnum Hengham, Parvum Hengham, and Registrum Brevium, a fifteenth century vellum manuscript of the statutes from 1 Edward III to 29 Henry VI, and a manuscript Year Book of 10-17 Edward III. The latter has been printed in the Rolls Series of Year Books. One of its most precious manuscripts, not legal, is a thirteenth century vellum manuscript beginning "Historia Anglorum, sive Saxonum, post venerabilem Bedam, edita a magistro Roberte de Hovenden." Among the more than 400 manuscripts are many letters, memorials, and proceedings in Parliament. The library of the Inner Temple is one of the largest of the group, having over 70,000 volumes. About one-third of these are law books, and the remaining two-thirds consist of standard works in all classes of literature.

The Middle Temple has, perhaps, the most direct interest for Americans, since it was to the Middle Temple that so many of the famous lawyers of the colonial and early federal period of America went for their legal education. Five of the signatories to the American Declaration of Independence were members

of the Middle Temple. The first non-British subject to be made an honorary Bencher of the Middle Temple was an American, Mr. Joseph Choate, who was chosen for this distinction when he was United States Ambassador to Great Britain. Mr. Choate gave to the library a set of the American Digest System, which has been kept up-to-date. In 1929 a collection of American reports was presented to the Society through the good offices of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Presentations of American reports have also been made by the Delaware Bar Association; by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia through its former Governor, Hon. Harry F. Byrd; by the Supreme Court of Ohio, through Chief Justice Carrington Marshall; and by many individual American lawyers. This Inn seems to be the most liberal in allowing strangers the use of its library.

Like the Inner Temple and Lincoln's Inn, the library contains a large proportion of books of general interest, the Middle Temple being particularly rich in theological and medical books of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. It now contains about 70,000 volumes.

The library of Gray's Inn differs from the others in character because it is devoted almost exclusively to English law books and reports. It is, consequently, the smallest of the four libraries, having about 30,000 volumes. While its collection of manuscripts is not large, it is valuable. Of particular interest is a copy of Bracton's De Legibus et Consuetudinibus Angliae, presented by John Godbold, who was Reader to the Society in 1635.

All the libraries of the Inns of Court are reference libraries, and the use of each is limited to its own members. It is occasionally possible for strangers to make use of them by special permission. It has been suggested at various times that the value of the libraries would be increased by establishing a union catalogue which would make the contents of all four known to the members of each society. This suggestion has not been adopted, however, and the Inns of Court Libraries continue in the tradition of their founding as independent collections.

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Gifts of American law books to the Middle Temple library, Law Times, v. 168,

Middle Temple library. Solicitor's Journal, v. 72, p. 59 (1928).

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Canadian gift to the Middle Temple library, by H. A. C. Sturgess. Canadian

p. 54 (1929).

Bar Review, v. 7, p. 85 (1929).

CURRENT COMMENTS

Annual Meetings of Interest to A. A. L. L. Members

THE SIXTIETH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSO-CIATION will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, June 13-18, 1938, with headquarters in the Municipal Auditorium. Complete program announcements will be found in the May number of the A. L. A. Bulletin and the May 1 number of The Library Journal.

Thomas S. Dabagh, Chairman of the American Association of Law Libraries Committee on Cooperation with the American Library Association, in a recent letter to the Editor calls the attention of our members to the program of the A. L. A. Catalog Section Meetings as follows:

"Members of the A. A. L. L. will want to attend the A. L. A. Catalog Section Meetings at the A. L. A. Conference in Kansas City. The Section will take up the subjects of 'The Cataloging of Microfilm', 'Limitation of Catalog Cards-Wise or Unwise Economy?', and 'Union Catalogs and the Point of Diminishing Returns.' These subjects are all ones of interest to law librarians as well as to general librarians."

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION will hold its Annual Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 7-10, 1938, with headquarters at the William Penn Hotel. See Tentative Program in the April, 1938, number of Special Libraries.

THE THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES will be held in Saint Paul, Minnesota, June 28-July 1, 1938. The program of the Annual Meeting is printed in this number of the Journal.

THE SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION will take place in Cleveland, Ohio, July 25-29, 1938, with headquarters at the Hotel Cleveland. See current numbers of the A. B. A. Journal for hotel rates and program announcements. Requests for room reservations should be addressed to Mrs. Olive Ricker, Executive Secretary of the American Bar Association, 1140 North Dearborn Street, Chicago.

The Federal Chart Book

A Federal Chart Book of important current statistics, the first official compilation of its kind, has recently been completed under a cooperative agreement between the staffs of the Central Statistical Board and the National Resources Committee. The Federal Chart Book consists of seventy-one pages of graphic presentation of changes in general business and social conditions. Material on the following fields is included: national income; production; population and occupations; employment, wages, and hours; prices and cost of living; foreign exchange, international payments, and foreign trade; public finance; currency and banking; interest rates; corporation profits and dividends; stock and commodity exchanges; capital formation; construction and real estate; railroads; retail trade; bituminous coal; steel; automobiles; cotton textiles; agriculture; relief; vital statistics; and education.

Each page of charts is accompanied by a brief text which sets forth the chief technical characteristics of the statistics used, indicates what agencies compile the basic data, and gives references to facilitate the location of current figures. Comments also caution the reader regarding the chief limitations which attach to the charted series and their principal virtues and defects in comparison with other available data and indicate the types of interpretation which may be drawn from them.

The Federal Chart Book by careful selection provides a broad picture with a limited number of series. The book should be of aid to lawyers in locating important economic and social information and should constitute an extremely useful reference work in law libraries.

It is hoped that arrangements may be made whereby the current information necessary to keep the book up-to-date may be provided in the form of a single periodic release which can be made available on request to users of the book. This service, however, will not be undertaken until the utility of the book has been clearly established by definite demands for it. A limited rotoprinted edition is now being distributed to Government officials and technical experts. Inquiries should be addressed to the Central Statistical Board or the National Resources Committee, Washington, D. C.

Oliver Leigh Hall Appointed State Librarian of Maine

Oliver Leigh Hall, M.A., who was recently appointed State Librarian of Maine to succeed the late Henry E. Dunnack, has long been prominently identified with the newspaper profession in the State of Maine. Serving as Editor of the Bangor Daily Commercial from 1911 to 1927, he was for many years an active member of the Maine State Daily Publisher's Association and in 1936 was honored by election to the presidency of that Association. Prior to his appointment as State Librarian in March, 1938, Mr. Hall was private secretary to Governor Barrows. Mr. Hall holds the degrees of Master of Arts conferred by Colby College and the University of Maine.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES UNDER THE EXPANSION PLAN*

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WILLIAM R. ROALFE

Chairman, Committee on Expansion Plan

As a period of approximately four years has elapsed since the Association adopted the Expansion Plan as a general guide for its further development, an appraisal of the present program of the Association in terms of this plan will no doubt be of interest. Although the recommendations contained therein vary greatly in importance, and some are comprehensive and others quite limited in their effect, an analysis reveals that the plan contains twenty-four proposals which may, at least for our present purpose, be regarded as separate and distinct.

At the outset it should be pointed out that, with respect to eight of these proposals, the Association has taken the specific steps recommended. These are (1) the adoption of amendments to the constitution and by-laws necessary to clear the way for the changes proposed; (2) incorporation of the Association; (3) establishment of permanent headquarters; (4) employment of a paid executive secretary on at least a part time basis; (5) the publication of the INDEX TO LEGAL PERIODICALS and the LAW LIBRARY JOURNAL as separate ¹ and distinct periodicals; (6) the publication of the entire proceedings of each annual meeting promptly and in a separate issue of the Journal; (7) the establishment of an institutional membership; and, (8) the modification of the fees for regular and associate members so as to bring them into line with the institutional membership plan as proposed.

In a number of instances these forward steps were taken immediately after the plan was adopted but for others some preparation had first to be made. However, the Association program soon began also to reflect the influence of activity arising from the application of other recommendations. In consequence, it is now possible to state there there are only two recommendations upon which no specific action has ever been taken. As these may more conveniently be dealt with at the end of this discussion we will first turn to a brief review of the remaining fourteen proposals in an order designed to bring them under several convenient groupings but bearing no relationship to their relative importance.

The plan is familiarly known to the members of the Association as the Roalfe Expansion Plan, being named for William R. Roalfe, Law Librarian, Duke University, who was the original sponsor of the plan and the author of a majority of its provisions. [Editor's note.]

^{*} The Expansion Plan was first proposed at the Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting in New Haven, June, 1931 (L. Lib. J. 24: 151-161); was formally presented to the Association through a committee report read at the Twenty-Seventh Annual Meeting in New Orleans, April, 1932 (L. Lib. J. 25: 177); and was adopted by the Association at the Twenty-Ninth Annual Meeting in Montreal, June, 1934 (L. Lib. J. 27: 132-146). Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws necessary to put the plan into effect were adopted at the Thirtieth Annual Meeting in Denver, June, 1935 (L. Lib. J. 28: 198-222; 232-234). The Association was incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia, September 23, 1935 (L. Lib. J. 28: 289).

¹ The INDEX TO LEGAL PERIODICALS and the LAW LIBRARY JOURNAL were separated and published as independent serials beginning with volume 29, number 1 (January, 1936). [Editor's note.]

Proceeding in this manner we may commence by taking note of several recommendations relating directly to the headquarters of the Association. It will no doubt be recalled that one of these stressed the importance of having at least one full time paid staff member. While this goal has not as yet been achieved, the Association is now regularly providing part time compensation for its Executive Secretary, and in addition a modest sum for clerical assistance. As the extent of the Association's work and the success of its program largely depend upon the time that can be given at Headquarters to the coordination of the voluntary work of the members, and to planning for the future, it is hoped that it will gradually be possible to assume a greater financial responsibility for this nucleur staff. While a good beginning has been made, the present arrangement should obviously not be regarded as final.

In stressing the value of a stronger headquarters organization the plan also recommended that there should be developed (1) a library on law library administration, (2) that the headquarters should become a depository for statistical information, and (3) that the Association should be utilized as a clearing house for general information. There can be no doubt that definite progress has been made with respect to each of these matters. While it will obviously take time to assemble any considerable body of literature on law library administration, through the cooperation of the law libraries and members, the Association is already gradually assembling a collection which should become increasingly useful. Needless to say, valuable data, when not in a form suitable for general distribution, should be deposited with the Association.

The progress made in the systematic gathering of statistical information has been most encouraging and an excellent beginning has been made. Fortunately, much of this information is being made immediately available through the pages of the Journal. Although its full significance has by no means been fully appreciated, it has already demonstrated its practical value and as the scope of this program broadens and the period of time covered by such data increases, it will gain in significance.

It hardly needs to be stated that the Association is almost continuously increasing its usefulness as a clearing house for general information. This service extends considerably beyond that provided through the pages of the LAW LIBRARY JOURNAL, important as the Journal is in this respect. The number of requests for information coming directly to headquarters testify to the importance of such a service and in consequence an increasing correspondence is required to answer the inquiries received from members, from persons, who, although they are not librarians, are interested in some special problem, and from the officers of other associations representing constituencies which have some interests in common with the American Association of Law Libraries.

Another group of recommendations dealt specifically with the Journal, one important function of which has just been mentioned. However, it performs other vital services and the plan contained several suggestions for its material improvement in addition to those which were adopted several years ago. As every member knows, these improvements are now being made according to a schedule that will

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probably insure the publication of ten issues each year in the not distant future, thus further expanding its contents and making possible the prompter distribution of important information. But the advance being made is by no means only quantitative. The contents is unquestionably more diversified and it is on an average of a higher quality, thus reflecting the gradual but unmistakable development of the Association.

The inclusion in the Journal of the list of "Recent Local Books, Casebooks, Treatises, Indexes and Services" has involved at least a partial compliance with another recommendation, namely, that essential information with respect to current legal publications should be provided. With the more frequent publication of the Journal as indicated above this listing service can be made more prompt and it will no doubt in the future be possible also to make it more complete.

There is one other recommendation relating to the Journal. This was concerned with one possible method of meeting the increasing cost of publication, namely, through the printing of advertisements. This matter has received the serious attention of the committee on the Journal, a limited amount of advertising has in fact been taken, and the committee contemplates further development in the advertising field in the near future.

Among the various classes of printed matter of interest to law librarians, two classes, bibliographies and indexes, were paricularly emphasized. Obviously the responsibility for the preparation of these must to a considerable extent be assumed by librarians. In spite of the fact that a great deal of work remains to be done, a gratifying beginning has undoubtedly been made. Recent issues of the Journal have contained a number of useful bibliographical check lists, including the ambitious bibliography of attorney general reports compiled by Mr. Lewis W. Morse of the Cornell Law School.

In the indexing field the Index to Volumes 21 to 29 of the Law Library Journal, prepared by Miss Helen Hargrave, of the University of Texas, is already in print. This index, together with the former cumulated Index of Volumes 1 to 20, has made the entire contents of the Journal readily available. With respect to the other two indexing projects specifically mentioned in the plan, namely, a cumulative index to the proceedings of the Association of American Law Schools, and the indexing of the reports and proceedings of the numerous American bar associations, it is gratifying to note that the former is now in preparation, and the latter has been placed in the hands of a special committee for study and report.

Although it clearly belongs in the same class as the projects just discussed, the INDEX TO LEGAL PERIODICALS requires separate consideration, not only because of its importance but also because it has long been an integral part of the service rendered by the Association. While this Index has been substantially improved, and important changes have recently been made those in charge are the most fully aware of the ways in which its usefulness might be increased. As has been the case from the beginning, financial limitations present the chief obstacle to further improvement, for in spite of its usefulness to the profession, the Index is not even today entirely self-supporting. Adequate funds are a prerequisite to every forward

step, and serious consideration is now being given to the possibility of discovering additional sources of revenue for current expenses. Sooner or later, however, the subscribers should be sufficiently numerous to make this project entirely self-supporting. It is also hoped that some way will be found to finance the cumulation of the Index from Volume 1 (1908) to 1926, at which time the present plan of three year cumulations was inaugurated.

Another group of recommendations was concerned with the relationship of the Association to other organizations and to the many individuals who use law libraries but who are not librarians. For example, the importance of educating those who use the law libraries and upon whom the librarians are dependent for support, to the needs of these libraries was particularly stressed. Suffice it to say, in this connection, that while the Association has not actually engaged in any activity specifically designed to achieve this end, it has in fact met with a reasonable degree of success as a result of its constantly increasing cooperation with other professional groups, notably the American Library Assocation, the American Bar Association, and the Association of American Law Schools. Particularly with the latter group an excellent foundation for continuous effective work has been laid, and there can be little doubt but that the law school libraries will in the future receive more intelligent and appreciative support from the law schools of which they form an important part. There seems to be no insurmountable obstacle to the establishment of a somewhat similar relationship with the American Bar Association.

However, as was clearly recognized in the plan, collaboration, if it is to be made fully effective, must on occasion be supplemented by financial assistance, for law librarians represent not primarily their own interests, but the library interests of the entire legal profession. It is obviously unintelligent to expect an adequate law library program to be financed through the collection of dues alone. For this reason the plan recommended that every effort be made to procure funds with which to carry forward desirable projects, where the normal income of the Association was clearly inadequate. In this connection, and as every member knows, the recent grant of \$5,000 by the Carnegie Corporation of New York has already made possible a substantial improvement in the Journal and in addition further improvements in the future have been planned according to a definite schedule. In this manner one essential feature of the Association's program is being made increasingly effective. However, there are a number of other meritorious undertakings with respect to the Association which require similar temporary support. Some of these are now receiving careful study and it is hoped that the necessary funds sooner or later will be forthcoming.

Having thus briefly reviewed the activities of the Association so far as they reflect recommendations contained in the plan, we may now turn to the two recommendations with respect to which the Association has as yet taken no definite action. In the first, it was suggested that the Association should not only encourage but in fact actually direct the conduct of research with respect to special problems. In spite of the obvious need for thoroughgoing work of this kind the Association, as such, has not found it practical to assume any direct responsibility, but this is, per-

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haps, not a serious matter provided a sufficient number of individual librarians interest themselves in particular problems and make the results of their studies available to all. The Association, by offering an adequate medium for publication through the pages of the Journal, is of course to this extent making a definite con-It should, however, look quite definitely forward to the day when it can also sponsor a series of monographs, thus providing an outlet for contributions not suitable for the Journal.

The second recommendation with respect to which there has as yet been no action relates to a survey of law libraries. Such a proposal was by no means original, for a survey has been advocated on more than one occasion. That this task has not as yet been undertaken is no doubt due to the fact that it would not only require careful planning in advance but would involve expenses that could not be met out of the current income of the Association. The importance of securing definite and detailed information about all the law libraries would seem to warrant the Association in giving the matter very careful study.

That the Association is definitely on the march unmistakably emerges from the foregoing review of the work of the last four years. However, it is equally clear that only a beginning has been made. The plan itself was merely the embodiment of certain proposals which together reflected the growing realization that the Association must assume a greater responsibility in all its branches. The beginnings of this movement preceded the adoption of the plan by many years. Certainly further development should in no way be limited by reference to it. Indeed, in some respects at least, the success of the Association in the future may be measured by the extent to which the plan seems obsolete.

A Curiosity in Law Reporting

A reader in one of the Massachusetts libraries recently came to the following citation: Farwell v. Boston and Worcester Railroad Corporation, 3 Macq. 316. His curiosity as to why a Massachusetts case should be found in a Scotch report led him to examine Volume 3 of Macqueen's "Reports of Scotch, peerage, divorce, and practice cases, in the House of Lords," published in London and Edinburgh in 1861. There he found reprinted Chief Justice Shaw's opinion in the case originally reported in 4 Metc. 49.

This is probably a unique or very rare instance of an American case being reported in a volume of British opinions. The explanation of its presence there is doubtless the fact that the Scotch cases of Bartonshill Coal Company v. Reid and McGuire, which cited the case of Farwell v. Boston and Worcester Railroad Corporation, are also reported in 3 Macqueen at pages 266 and 300. The Reid case cites the Farwell case three times and a note in the report of the Reid case refers to the report of the Farwell case at page 316 in the same volume of Macqueen.

In a note at page 301 of the McGuire case is recorded the quaint observation of the reporter: "Reid and McGuire were victims of the same accident, which, though melancholy, has settled the law."

This same quotation, by the way, is found on page 1 of Heard's interesting little book Curiosities of the Law Reporters.

PROGRAM OF THE THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES Saint Paul, Minnesota, June 28-July 1, 1938

Headquarters: Saint Paul Hotel*

Tuesday, June 28

10:00 A. M.—Supreme Court Room, Minnesota State Capitol; James C. Baxter, Librarian of the Philadelphia Bar Association, and President of the American Association of Law Libraries, Presiding.

Addresses of Welcome:

- Honorable Henry M. Gallagher, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Minnesota.
- Honorable James H. Hall, President, Minnesota State Bar Association.
- Miss Josephine Norval, Assistant Librarian, Minnesota State Library.

Response to the Addresses of Welcome:

Lewis W. Morse, Law Librarian, Cornell University.

Reports:

- Report of the President—James C. Baxter, Librarian of the Philadelphia Bar Association.
- Report of the Executive Secretary and Treasurer—Helen Newman, Law Librarian of The George Washington University.
- Report of the Committee on Index to Legal Periodicals—Franklin O. Poole, Librarian of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.
- Report of the Committee on Law Library Journal—Frederick C. Hicks, Law Librarian of Yale University.

Visit to the Minnesota State Library.

2:30 P. M.—Capital Room, Saint Paul Hotel; James C. Baxter, President, American Association of Law Libraries, Presiding.

Addresses:

- Some Phases of Law Library Administration and Service—Arthur S. Beardsley, Law Librarian of the University of Washington.
- Ohio Reports, Statutes and Digests—Alfred A. Morrison, Law Librarian of the University of Cincinnati.

Reports of Committees.**

- Committee on Expansion Plan—Chairman William R. Roalfe, Law Librarian of Duke University.
- Committee on Cooperation with American Bar Association—Chairman Dennis A. Dooley, State Librarian of Massachusetts.
- Committee on Cooperation with American Library Association—Chairman Thomas S. Dabagh, Law Librarian of the University of California.
- Committee on Cooperation with Association of American Law Schools— Chairman Bernita J. Long, Law Librarian of the University of Illinois. Appointment of Auditing, Nominating, and Resolutions Committees.
- * Registration desk will be in the rear of the main lobby of the Saint Paul Hotel. Members and guests are requested to register upon arrival. There will be no registration fee.
- ** Committee chairmen will be asked to give a brief summary of their reports, confining their remarks to five minutes. The reports will be printed in full in the proceedings number of the LAW LIBRARY JOURNAL.

9:00 P. M. -Windsor Room, Saint Paul Hotel.

Reception given by the Officers and Executive Committee to all members and guests attending the Annual Meeting.

Wednesday, June 29

10:00 A. M.—Capital Room, Saint Paul Hotel; James C. Baxter, President, American Association of Law Libraries, Presiding.

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Reference Work in a Law Library—Margaret E. Hall, Reference Assistant, Columbia University Law Library.

Microphotography in a Law Library—Hobart R. Coffey, Law Librarian of the University of Michigan.

Report of the Special Committee to Study the Use of Microfilms for Reproducing Records and Briefs in Cases Before the Supreme Court of the United States—Chairman Helen S. Moylan, Law Librarian of the State University of Iowa.

12:30 P. M.—Casino, Saint Paul Hotel. Luncheon—Tendered by the West Publishing Company.

Remarks:

Henry F. Asmussen, President, West Publishing Company.

Harvey T. Reid, Editor-in-Chief, West Publishing Company.

Response:

James C. Baxter, President, American Association of Law Libraries.

2:00 P. M.—Visit to West Publishing Company.

Personally conducted tours in groups through the Library, Editorial Department, underground vaults, manufacturing and other departments.

7:30-9:00 P.M.—Visit to the Law Library of the University of Minnesota.

Thursday, June 30

10:00 A.M.—Capital Room, Saint Paul Hotel.

Institute on Law Library Administration. Frances D. Lyon, Law Librarian of New York State Library, Presiding.

Topic: LAW LIBRARY APPROPRIATIONS.

Effecting Some Economies—Lewis W. Morse, Law Librarian of Cornell University.

Expenditures in a Small Law Library-Ophelia Strickland, Law Librarian of the University of South Carolina.

General Discussion.

1:00 P. M. - Sightseeing Trip.

Tour around the lakes in the Twin Cities to the Indian Mounds, Sibley House (first governor's dwelling in Minnesota), Fort Snelling, Minnehaha Falls, Lake Minnetonka. Conveyances for the sightseeing trip are being provided through the courtesy of the West Publishing Company.

6:00 P. M.—Supper at the Automobile Club at Bloomington on the Minnesota River.

The officers of the West Publishing Company will be hosts to the law librarians and their guests attending the Thirty-Third Annual Meeting.

Friday, July 1

10:00 A. M. - Capital Room, Saint Paul Hotel.

Institute on Law Library Administration (continued). Frances D. Lyon, Law Librarian of New York State Library, Presiding.

Topic: LAW LIBRARY APPROPRIATIONS.

Administrative Authority in Law Librarianship—Oscar C. Orman, Director of Libraries, Washington University.

Cost of Continuations—J. Oscar Emrich, Librarian of Allegheny County Law Library

General Discussion.

2:30 P. M.—Capital Room, Saint Paul Hotel; Business Session; James C. Baxter, President, American Association of Law Libraries, Presiding.

Reports of Committees.**

Committee on Bar Association Publications—Chairman Marie Russell, Law Reference Librarian of Kansas State Library.

Committee on List of Law Libraries in Standard Legal Directory—Chairman A. Alfred De Vito, Law Librarian of Court of General Sessions, New York City.

Committee on New Members—Chairman Lawrence H. Schmehl, Librarian of New York County Lawyers' Association.

Committee on Statistics—General Chairman Jean Ashman, Law Librarian of Indiana University.

Subcommittee on Bar Association Library Statistics—Chairman Helen G. Ross, Librarian of Duluth Bar Library.

Subcommittee on County Law Library Statistics—Chairman Helen Maltby Lumpkin, Assistant Law Librarian of the University of North Carolina.

Subcommittee on Court Library Statistics—Chairman Edward A. Haney, Law Librarian of New Jersey State Library.

Subcommittee on Law School Library Statistics—Chairman Ophelia Strickland, Law Librarian of University of South Carolina.

Special Advisory Committee on Education for Law Librarianship—Chairman Miles O. Price, Law Librarian of Columbia University.

Special Committee on Cooperation with Law Book Publishers and Publishers' Representatives—Chairman Wm. S. Johnston, Librarian of Chicago Law Institute.

Special Committee on Indexing Bar Association Reports—Chairman Lewis W. Morse, Law Librarian of Cornell University.

Report of Auditing Committee.

Report of Resolutions Committee.

Report of Nominating Committee.

Election of Officers.

Adjournment.

^{**} Committee chairmen will be asked to give a brief summary of their reports confining their remarks to five minutes. The reports will be printed in full in the proceedings number of the LAW LIBRARY JOURNAL.

The Committee on Arrangements for the Annual Meeting is composed of Arthur C. Pulling, Chairman, Law Librarian of the University of Minnesota, Miss Josephine Norval and Paul Dansingberg of the Minnesota State Library, Mrs. Lillian M. Taylor, Acting Librarian of the Hennepin County Law Library, and L. S. Mercer, Editorial Counsel of the West Publishing Company.

Hotel Accommodations

The Saint Paul Hotel, Saint Paul, Minnesota, has been selected for the headquarters of the Thirty-Third Annual Meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries to be held Tuesday, June 28th, to Friday, July 1st, inclusive, 1938.

Reservations for rooms should be made as soon as possible through Frank H. Bellizzi, Assistant Manager, Saint Paul Hotel. The room rates are as follows: Single Rooms \$2.50—\$3.00—\$3.50—\$4.00—\$4.50—\$5.00—\$5.50

Double Rooms \$3.50—\$4.00—\$4.50—\$5.00—\$5.50—\$6.00—\$6.50

Twin Beds \$5.00—\$6.00—\$7.00

Travel Arrangements

A Parlor Car for the accommodation of our members has been reserved on "The Hiawatha" (Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad) leaving from the Union Station, Chicago, at 1 P. M. on Monday, June 27, and arriving at St. Paul at 7:30 P. M. the same evening. The round-trip railroad fare from Chicago to St. Paul is \$17.85, and the Parlor Car seat \$1.00 each way. Members and their guests who plan to take this train should notify the Executive Secretary in order that seats may be reserved for them on the special car. Railroad tickets should, of course, be purchased by individuals through their local ticket agents.

The Commerce Clearing House, Inc., 205 W. Monroe St., Chicago, has invited all law librarians who will be in Chicago on the morning of June 27th to visit their offices and plant.

Bring Your Want Lists and Lists of Duplicates to the Annual Meeting in Saint Paul

"Do you have any duplicates?" This familiar question was heard in the hotel lobby, in the headquarters room and wherever law librarians gathered in social groups at the Annual Meeting in New York last June. The Executive Secretary suggests that librarians who are planning to attend the Annual Meeting in Saint Paul bring with them their want lists and their lists of duplicates (periodicals and books) which they have for exchange.

In spite of an allegation once made by a prominent former member that an Annual Meeting was not the place to transact business, we see no objection to the individual members "stopping and swapping" if they desire to do so. In fact we urge each member to bring his lists, because we know that many librarians do not have the time or the funds to prepare and send out during the year mimeographed lists to their librarian friends. What better place to do a little trading than in the "market place" of an Annual Meeting?

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RECENT LOCAL BOOKS, CASEBOOKS, TREATISES, INDEXES AND SERVICES

Administration of Federal Grants to States, The. By V. O. Key, Jr. Public Administration Service. \$3.75.

American Bar Association, Sixty-second Report of the. 1937.

American Family Laws, Volume V. Chester G. Vernier. Stanford University Press, 1938. \$6.50. (Supplement to all volumes ready this summer, \$3.00.)

American Law Institute Proceedings, Volume 14, 1936-37. \$4.00.

Arkansas: Crawford Arkansas Digest, 1938 Cumulative Supplement. \$15.00.

Bankruptcy Act, Collier Pamphlet Edition, 1938. Matthew Bender & Co. \$2.00. Brannan's Negotiable Instruments Law, 6th Edition. By Frederick K. Beutel. W. H. Anderson Co., 1938. \$10.00.

California: California Corporation Laws, 1938 Edition. By Henry W. Ballantine and Graham L. Sterling, Jr. Parker & Baird Co. \$12.50.

California Law Review Index, Volumes 1 to 25. Boalt Hall of Law, Berkeley California, \$5.50.

Canada: Guide to Ontario Practice, The. Canada Law Book Company, Limited, \$10.00.

Cases on Code Pleading, 2nd Edition. By Archibald H. Throckmorton. West Publishing Company, 1938. \$5.50.

Common Law, The. 1938 reprint. By Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. Little, Brown & Co. \$2.00.

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